



CANNOCK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

- R E P O R T -



of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the year

1946.

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To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee of the Cannock Rural District Council:-

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1946 on the health and sanitary conditions of the district: this includes a report by the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

The Birth Rate for the District was slightly higher than, and the Death Rate slightly lower than the respective rates for England and Wales.

Of the Infectious Diseases, the notifications of Scarlet Fever and of Diphtheria were each the lowest for over ten years. There was no severe epidemic during the year; Whooping Cough showed the highest number of notifications.

As in the past years, the Staffordshire County Council has been the Authority responsible for the ante-natal, maternity and child welfare services. Under the National Health Service Act 1946, the County Council will also administer the Ambulance Service from July, 1948.

I wish to thank you, Mr. Chairman, for help and encouragement given throughout the year.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

Duncan T. McAlinsh.

Acting Medical Officer of Health.

15th September, 1947.

Statistics of the Area.

Area (in acres) 55,256 - unchanged.

Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population 23,040.

Number of inhabited houses according to the rate book 6062.

Rateable Value as at 31.3.47 £94,622 and a penny rate produces £372.

BIRTHS.

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Total Live Births.	229.	219.	448.
Legitimate.	218.	210.	428.
Illegitimate.	11.	9.	20.
Total Still Births.	4.	4.	8.
Legitimate.	3.	2.	5.
Illegitimate.	1.	2.	3.

Birth Rate per 1,000 population for the district 19.44.

Birth Rate per 1,000 population for England and Wales 19.1.

Still Births 17.54 per 1,000 total (live & still) Births.

Still Birth rate .35 per 1,000 population.

Still Birth rate England and Wales .53 per 1,000 population.

DEATHS.

Total:- 252.

Male 139.

Female 113.

Local Adjusted Death Rate 10.94 per 1,000 population.

Death Rate for England & Wales 11.5 per 1,000 population.

The Maternal Mortality Rate for the country was 1.43 per 1,000 total Births. (Live & Still).

During the year there was no death from Maternal Causes in this district.

The Main Causes of Death over the past three years were:-

	<u>1946.</u>	<u>1945.</u>	<u>1944.</u>
Diseases of Heart & Circulation ...	91.	96.	69.
Respiratory Diseases	36.	35.	30.
Malignant Disease	37.	35.	22.
Violence, including suicide... ..	8.	13.	9.
Malformation & Premature Births ...	10.	14.	22.
Tuberculosis... ..	11.	11.	11.

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR
OF AGE.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age:- 18, one of which was illegitimate.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:-

All Infants per 1,000 live births..... 40.18
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births..... 39.72
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births... 50

Deaths from Measles (all ages) 0.
" " Whooping Cough (all ages) 1.
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years) 1.

INCIDENCE OF SCARLET FEVER, DIPHTHERIA
AND PNEUMONIA DURING THE TEN YEARS.
1937 - 1946.

	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Pneumonia.
1937.	189.	33.	39.
1938.	105.	46.	37.
1939.	43.	75.	36.
1940.	35.	64.	37.
1941.	67.	26.	26.
1942.	80.	40.	32.
1943.	87.	29.	41.
1944.	39.	31.	26.
1945.	28.	29.	14.
1946.	22.	11.	25.

IMMUNISATION OF CHILDREN AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

	Age up to 5 years.	5 years to 14 years (Both inclusive)
1940.	Nil.	196.
1941.	542.	689.
1942.	608.	150.
1943.	450.	807.
1944.	248.	6.
1945.	263.	15.
1946.	277.	53.

During the year 18 children were given a secondary or reinforcing injection (having already had a complete course).

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS
DURING THE YEAR 1946.

<u>DISEASE.</u>	<u>Total Cases Notified.</u>	<u>Cases Admitted to Hospital.</u>	<u>Total Deaths.</u>
Smallpox.....	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever.....	22	20	-
Diphtheria.....	11	11	-
Puerperal Pyrexia.....	-	-	-
Erysipelas.....	6	1	-
Pneumonia.....	25	7	6
Meningitis.....	-	-	-
Opthalmia Neonatorum..	3	3	-
Typhoid Fever.....	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis...	-	-	-
Shonke Dysentary.....	3	1	-
Whooping Cough.....	102	2	-
Measles.....	73	1	-

TUBERCULOSIS YEAR 1946.

	<u>NEW CASES.</u>				<u>DEATHS.</u>			
	<u>Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Non- Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Non Pulmonary.</u>	
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
0 to 1 year.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 and upwards.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 " 	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 " 	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
15 " 	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
20 " 	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	-
25 " 	2	3	-	-	1	2	-	-
35 " 	1	2	-	-	1	-	-	-
45 " 	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
55 " 	2	1	-	-	2	-	-	-
65 " 	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS.	9	8	1	2	6	2	-	-

DISTRIBUTION OF INFECTIOUS CASES
IN
CANNOCK RURAL DISTRICT.

<u>PARISH.</u>	<u>DIPHTHERIA.</u>	<u>SCARLET FEVER.</u>	<u>MEASLES.</u>	<u>WHOOPING COUGH.</u>
Brewood.	-	5	1	1
Cheslyn Hay.	7	5	11	4
Shareshill.	-	-	-	1
Essington.	-	2	2	46
Featherstone.	-	-	1	-
Great Wyrley.	3	7	49	44
Huntington.	-	2	7	-
Penkridge.	1	-	-	-
Stretton.	-	-	-	1
Hatherton.	-	-	-	2
Acton & Bednall.	-	1	2	1
Lapley.	-	-	-	2
TOTALS.	11	22	73	102

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The ambulance provided by Cannock R.D.C. continued to give service during the year.

Among other work patients were taken to and from the following Hospitals:-

- 56. cases removed to Wolverhampton Royal Hospital.
- 10. cases removed from Wolverhampton Royal Hospital.
- 64. cases removed to Staffordshire Infirmary.
- 6. cases removed from Staffordshire Infirmary.
- 51. cases removed to Walsall General Hospital.
- 6. cases removed from Walsall General Hospital.
- 18. cases removed to Womens Hospital Wolverhampton.
- 9. cases removed from Womens Hospital Wolverhampton.
- 35. cases removed to Cheslyn Hay Isolation Hospital.
- 10. cases removed to Cannock P.A. Hospital.
- 2. cases removed to Sedgley P.A. Hospital.
- 1. case removed to Lichfield P.A. Hospital.
- 2. cases removed to Q.V.N.I. Wolverhampton.
- 2. cases removed to Birmingham Children's Hospital.
- 2. cases removed to Birmingham General Hospital.
- 1. case removed to Wissage Hospital Lichfield.
- 1. case removed to Children's Hospital Wolverhampton.
- 1. case removed to Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham.
- 3. cases removed to Shugborough Park P.W. Hospital.
- 2. cases removed to Cannock U.D. Clinic.
- 1. case removed from Beeches Nursing Home, Penn.

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS AND WELFARE CLINICS IN
CANNOCK RURAL DISTRICT.

These clinics are under the arrangement of Staffordshire County Council:-

Child Welfare Clinics:-

Brewood and Featherstone each week.
Cheslyn Hay, Essington, Great Wyrley, Huntington,
Wheaton Aston and Penkridge - Fortnightly.

Ante-Natal Clinics:-

Featherstone and Great Wyrley - Fortnightly.

REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

ANTHRAX.

During the year 18 suspected cases of Anthrax were reported compared with 10 in the previous year.

WATER SUPPLIES.

The chief water supplies in the district remain the same and are obtained from the South Staffordshire Water Works Co., and the Wolverhampton Corporation which supply Cheslyn Hay, Great Wyrley, Huntington, Hatherton, Penkridge and the larger portion of the parishes of Brewood, Stretton, Essington, Shareshill, Featherstone, Hilton, Lapley, Wheaton Aston and Saredon. The Stafford Corporation supplies Coppenhall and Dunston.

The water supplied by the three undertakings is satisfactory in quality and quantity.

31 samples of non-piped water and no samples of piped water have been taken.

When non-piped water is found unsatisfactory, wells are cleaned out; further samples taken, and if the water is still doubtful all Householders using this water are advised to boil it before using.

There is no Plumbo-solvent action in the water supplied by any of the three water companies.

Schemes for supplying water to Acton Trussell and Bednall, Dunston Heath, Shaw Hall Lane, Coven and the Four Crosses and Oak Lane Areas are under preparation and are expected to be put into operation in the very near future.

PARTICULARS OF THE NUMBER OF DWELLING-HOUSES AND THE NUMBER OF THE POPULATION SUPPLIED FROM PUBLIC WATER MAINS (a) DIRECT TO THE HOUSES, (b) BY MEANS OF STAND-PIPES. (ESTIMATED).

	<u>Houses.</u>	<u>Population.</u>	<u>Houses with Piped Supply.</u>	<u>Houses with Joint-Stand Pipe Supply.</u>
Acton & Bednall.	123.	510.	-	-
Blymhill.	139.	510.	20.	-
Brewood.	928.	3260.	890.	-
Cheslyn Hay.	844.	3070.	842.	-
Coppenhall.	32.	100.	26.	-
Dunston.	78.	300.	30.	-
Essington.	830.	3085.	795.	27.
Featherstone.	203.	1060.	199.	-
Hatherton.	140.	510.	75.	-
Huntington.	303.	1570.	303.	-
Lapley.	210.	810.	140.	-
Penkridge.	743.	2695.	660.	-
Saredon.	120.	410.	84.	-
Shareshill.	92.	320.	77.	-
Stretton.	42.	170.	34.	-
Hilton.	48.	190.	34.	-
Teddesley Hay.	23.	80.	-	-
Weston-under-Lizard.	77.	280.	58.	-
Great Wyrley.	1087.	4110.	1085.	-
	<u>6062.</u>	<u>23040.</u>	<u>5352.</u>	<u>27.</u>

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Summary of Inspections and Work done during 1946.

Number of houses inspected.....	693.	
Re-inspections, calls etc.,.....	341.	
Nuisances found.....	50.	
Nuisances abated.....	31.	
Slaughterhouse Licences renewed.....	14.	
Meat & Fodd Inspection.....	27.	
Cowsheds and Dairies Inspected.....	45.	
Petrol Licences renewed.....	45.	
New Petrol Licences granted.....	2.	
Carbide Licences renewed.....	1.	
Drainage work examined.....	19.	
Cases of Infectious Disease investigated.....	33.	
Cases of Infectious Disease removed.....	44.	
Houses disinfected after Infectious cases.....	33.	
Reports on Infectious cases to M.O.H.....	264.	
New Licences, Slaughter of Animals Act 1933.....	5.	
Renewal Licences, Slaughter of Animals Act 1933..	35.	
Informal Notices issued.....	182.	(Affecting 33 Houses)
Statutory Notices issued.....	23.	(Affecting 32 Houses)
Number of Privies converted to Water Closets.....	2.	
Water Samples taken.....Chemical.....	31.	
.....Bacteriological.....	31.	
Pan Lavatories substituted for Privy Middens.....	2.	

	<u>Pasteurised.</u>	<u>Tuberculin Tested.</u>	<u>Accredited.</u>
Supplementary Milk Licences.	6.	3.	1.
Dealers Licence.	-	2.	2.
Pasteuriser's Licence.	-	-	-

RURAL HOUSING SURVEY.

The housing survey proceeded steadily during the year, but was unfortunately retarded owing to the Additional Sanitary Inspector leaving in October to take up an appointment elsewhere.

Of the houses inspected 4.91% are considered to be totally unfit for habitation, while 15.71% are considered satisfactory in all respects.

The results of the survey are as follows:-

<u>Classification.</u>	The houses are placed in classes which correspond broadly to those provided for under the Housing Acts and the Housing (Rural Workers) Acts namely:-
	1. Satisfactory in all respects. 109.
	2. Minor Defects. 228.
	3. Repair structural alteration or improvement. 291.
	4. Reconditioning (Rural Workers Acts) 29.
	5. Demolition. 34.

Total = 691.

<u>Statutory Notices.</u>	12 Statutory Notices (including 1 Demolition Order) have been served affecting 32 houses and requiring provision of adequate closet accommodation and Dustbins.
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<u>Informal Notices.</u>	Some 182 Informal Notices have been served affecting some 533 houses, these are served mainly on Class 2 and 3 houses requiring urgent repairs to be carried out and on Class 4 and 5 only to maintain them in a weatherproof condition.
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<u>Overcrowding.</u>	The survey revealed that in 17 cases the number of people occupying a house is in excess of the permitted number. This represents 2.507% of the houses inspected.
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(It should be noted that figures quoted in this report refer only to the year 1946).

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

During the year Public Cleansing by direct labour was continued in the Parishes of Brewood, Penkridge, Stretton, Huntington, Acton Trussell, Bednall and Lapley and the villages of Weston-under-Lizard, Brineton and Blymhill.

The emptying of cesspools in the parishes of Brewood, Cheslyn Hay, Great Wyrley, Saredon, Essington, Huntington, Featherstone, Hilton, Shareshill and Hatherton was done as in previous years by the Council's cesspool emptier.

Collections of Refuse have been fairly well maintained by your Contractor in the Parishes of Cheslyn Hay, Great Wyrley, Essington, Shareshill, Saredon, Hilton, Featherstone and Hatherton.

G. Richardson,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

